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A LANDING AT VARZI, ITALY

See page 2

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

ESTABLISHED SPRING 1955

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A SORRY TALE

FSR readers sometimes write and ask us why we no longer run nice close-encounter cases of the Adamski or Menger type, in which, brimming with zest and displaying no dental caries, handsome, photogenic, sun-tanned gents from Venus leap from their craft and expatiate on the marvels of the Cosmos or issue dire warnings about the wicked Americans.

The sad, sad fact is that such accounts no longer come our way. All that we get is a surfeit of the other sort, as recent issues of our Journal have shown.

To tell the truth, we too are getting quite tired of green critters and gnomes and ghouls and rat-faces, and long for something more socially acceptable. So, if our readers know of any such, we hope they will see that the reports are steered in our direction.

But — when one comes to think of it — if all those teeming denizens of Outer Space are as anxious as we are told they are to make the acquaintance of Earthlings, *then why is it that they seem to be so shy of making contact with UFO investigators? You would have thought they would be falling over themselves to meet the likes of us.*

Then, why aren't they?

Could it possibly be that in fact our "Visitors" aren't quite what they pretend to be, and certainly aren't visitors?

Do they think perhaps that folk like us might already know too much? Do they find it safer to go on peddling their tales to ordinary run-of-the-mill citizens who aren't UFO-buffs and don't read books on the subject?

A minority among our readers — and we shall be publishing a letter from one of them shortly — are convinced that we shall wait in vain for the dear Venusians, since the whole humanoid rabble is *demonic.* Believe it or not, that is not precisely our view, though it is true that we think we shall be proved right when we say they are *all Jinns.* But then not even Muhammad himself or the most Noble Qur'ān ever maintained that *all Jinns* were baddies. On the contrary, it is specifically stated in Islam that *some* of them are *goodies* who, when the time comes, may even end up in Paradise along with us.

So, Venusians or Goodie-Jinns, do please bring on your Act again! We are all getting so bored with the Opposition, and long for a change of programme.

A LANDING AT VARZI IN NORTHERN ITALY

Antonio Chiumiento
Vice-President of C.U.N. (Italian National Ufological Centre)

(Translation from Italian)

VARZI, a small town in the Province of Pavia, lies due south of Milano at about 44° 55 N. 9° 10 E, and an altitude of 416 m., on the northern bank of a small river called the Staffora and in the middle of a shallow and fairly open valley. The landscape is typically hilly, with cultivations alternating with areas of woodland and frequent scattered farmsteads.

The area where the sighting occurred is on the opposite bank of the river to the town, and is the northeastward-facing side of a low hill sloping gently down towards the stream. The road cuts horizontally through the flank of the hill, separating the field, upstream, from the property of the eyewitnesses, whose house is located at a distance of some 150 m. as the crow flies. From their house one can range visually over the entire slope of the hill without encountering obstacles of any sort. The road is at about 15 degrees to the horizon at the observation site (the terrace of the house).

Description of the Phenomenon

The persistent, angry, and prolonged barking of his dogs awakened Mario Claretto at about 5.50 a.m. on Sunday, June 5, 1983. Aged 56, he resides at Cà Bianca di Varzi, amid the green meadows of the Staffora Valley.

He glanced out from the terrace to see what had thrown his animals into such excitement, and, to his surprise, there was something shining on the hill, immediately above the tall alfalfa, and distant about 160 metres in a straight line from his house and about ten metres from the road. Observing more attentively, he noticed that it was a sort of orange-coloured "headlight" or "lamp", which formed part of a sort of dome with a flattened top. But there was also something else. The "something" was not stationary. It was slowly rotating in an anti-clockwise direction, showing now an orange-coloured section, in which was the "headlight", now a section bright as silver or like the colour of tinfoil, and then, finally, a dark segment. What could it possibly be?

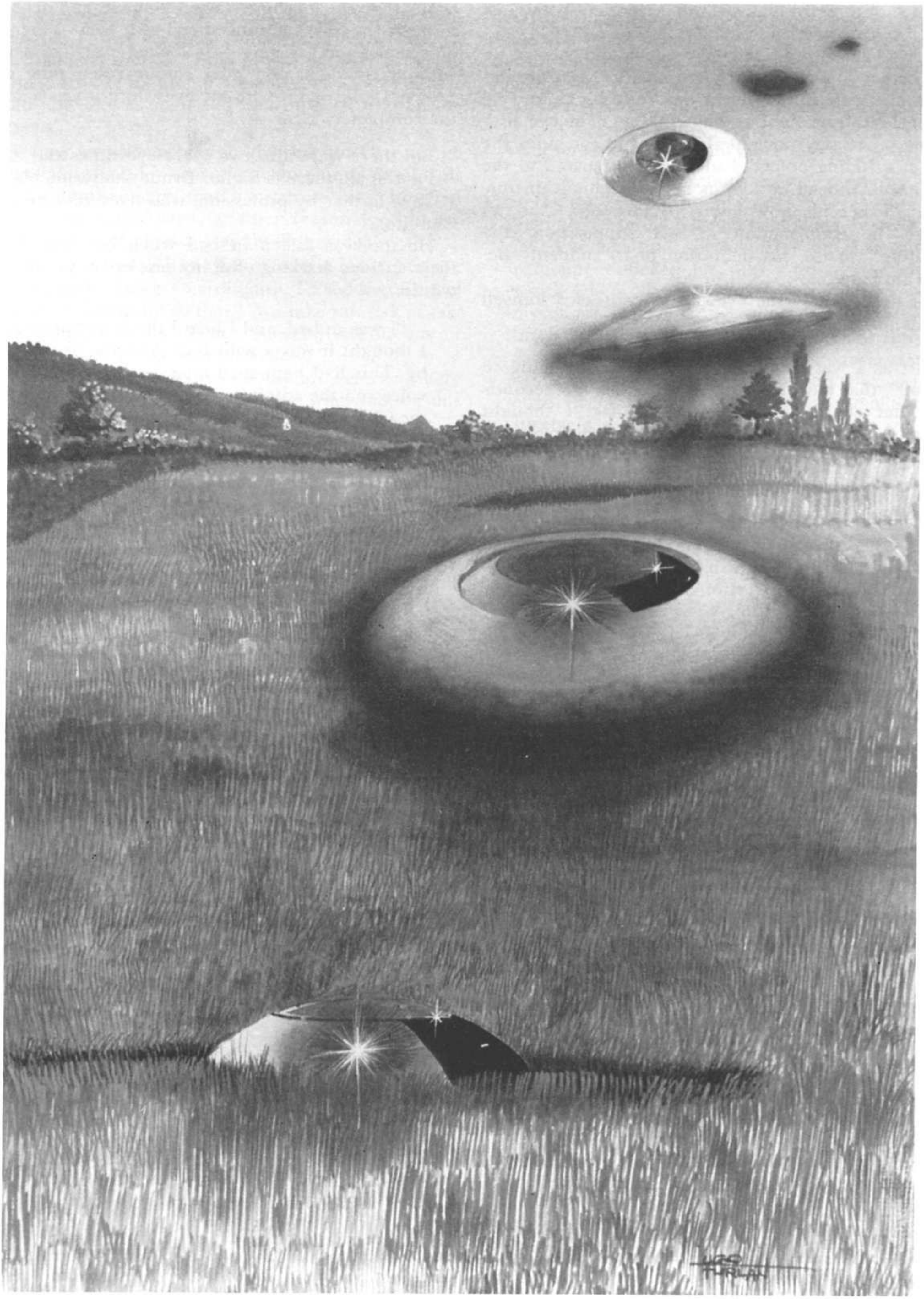
Mario Claretto did not stop to ask himself the question, at least not straight away. He awakened his wife, Velia Bono, aged 57, so that she too might see that "spectacular and extraordinary something". His spouse was not long in giving her impression: "It looks exactly like tinfoil", and then, when she saw the orange part of the dark part, she added: "Maybe it's all caused by the sunshine?" But her husband's words: "Can't you see that it is rotating . . . it's a lamp! . . . and the Sun isn't visible yet over the hills!" failed to arouse enough curiosity in her to keep her from going back to bed. On the other hand, Mario's own desire to know had given way before his current domestic chores, at least for the time being. Some guests were due to be arriving later. It was necessary to do the cooking and prepare the mayonnaise. So he went down into the kitchen and devoted himself to this task, taking up position in front of the window through which he had an excellent view of the spot where the "thing" was.

So, in between one egg and another, between a whipping and a tasting, he kept glancing out from the window where that sort of dome, always in the same position, continued to be clearly visible.

It was only later that Mario Claretto decided to do a better check-up. "I'm going to take a look now. I'll go up there slowly", he said to himself. (The eyewitness suffers from heart trouble, as we shall mention later.) There was no trace of fear or apprehension in him, neither was there excessive curiosity. He was already down in the courtyard, and therefore just about to start out, when he saw somebody, coming from the vineyard on the hillside to the right of the house and going straight towards that strange "thing".

"It must certainly have been a man from the countryside," said Claretto — "I knew that from the way he walked. In some newspapers it was stated that he was in all probability a holiday visitor from Milano who had rented accommodation right here in Cà Bianca, not far from the house of the former mayor of Varzi, Professor Carlo Azzaretti. But country folk have a very particular way of putting down their feet between furrows and ditches. And that man moved just like someone used to the fields. I should also add that the man was wearing a blue shirt with vertical white stripes." The fact of the matter is that this unknown person (still not identified) was heading, as stated, precisely towards the "thing", and even got close to it, a

Fig. 1 Successive stages as the Varzi "object" took off. (Reconstruction by artist UGO FURLAN.)


UGO FURLAN

distance of a metre or two from it, hidden in the last stretch by the very high alfalfa.

Mario Claretto saw the man vanish and then in no time he saw him reappear. And now he was running like a madman, obviously in headlong flight, and he disappeared from sight in the twinkling of an eye after getting on to the road. At this point in the story the idea of a "flying object" had already occurred to the eyewitness. Indeed he told us he had thought instinctively: "I bet it's now going to take off". And, as though in confirmation of his supposition, the "machine" (to use his definition of it) suddenly became animated.

But here is how the eyewitness expressed himself on this point:—

"Just as I was saying to myself 'now it's going to take off', that machine rose up slowly, a few seconds after that chap's frantic escape. In fact I thought maybe they had ignited a gas or something of that sort to make the man leave, and that this was what had terrified him, but this of course is just my theory. And so I was now able to see the lower part of the object, which the long alfalfa had prevented me from seeing. The under-part was indeed flat, but shaped like a slightly upturned dish, or slightly like a chandelier, or, again, like a sort of silver-coloured or silver tin foil-coloured spinning-top. However, the object had no sooner risen, than what had seemed to all appearances to be a control-cabin, that is to say the cupola-shaped upper part with the flattened top, which I had been observing just above the surface of the alfalfa field for about an hour, re-entered into, or was swallowed up by it, 'just like the action of a bellows'. The machine did not rise vertically, but covered some metres grazing the ground, at a height of one or two metres.

"When the cupola went down, a vapour or a mist, or a smoke, came out (but maybe it's a mistake to express it that way). It seemed almost to be a powder, or, better, something midway between smoke and dust, brown or brick-coloured, but bright, but dull. All this without any sound and without any displacement of air. In fact, the alfalfa did not move in the slightest. That sort of 'mist' prevented me from making out the form of the object, and the whole thing had now assumed the characteristic shape, and even the colour, of a Havana cigar. ("Now I understand", said the eyewitness later, "why they also call them 'flying cigars'".)

"After having travelled some few metres, grazing the ground, still very, very slowly, the machine rose vertically, and, reaching a height of 20-30 metres above the hill, it halted for a few seconds, giving the impression of almost turning back. Meanwhile, that sort of 'gas' had vanished rapidly, so that I could now see the object again. "The cupola at once came out, spinning anti-clockwise as before, and still with that sort of orange "lamp". No sooner was the cupola out again, than the machine started to move, and departed towards the SSW, gaining speed as it went. When the object had gained height, it looked just like a pear without its stalk, and of a colour resembling dark brown. I followed it with my eyes until it was a dot in the completely clear sky."

But there were also two other eyewitnesses.

First of all, there is Signor Bruno Stafforini, born in 1923, a farmer by profession, who lives very near the Clarettos.

He too was asleep in bed when his dogs began their furious barking. But let us listen to his own words:

> "I was in bed, and I heard the dogs barking, and I thought it was a wild boar hanging around near by. This had happened once before. Then I heard voices on the adjoining balcony of the room where the Clarettos sleep. I went down into the courtyard, as I also had to feed the chickens and the other animals. Well now, the dog that was on the chain was barking so fiercely that he had almost torn himself loose. He seemed to be rabid, while the other dog, which I always leave loose, kept dashing out in the direction of the hill opposite our house and then stopping at one certain spot, barking furiously, and turning around and coming straight back to near my feet, and this he did several times. It got to such a pitch that I threatened the dogs with my stick to make them stop barking, but it was useless.
>
> "Mario Claretto spoke to me from his kitchen window and told me to look over towards the hill, at Signor Tornari's field, for there was something abnormal there. But to me it looked like a piece of tinfoil glittering and moving to and fro and so frightening the dogs.
>
> "How could one imagine that later I would see a flying object rise up from that spot! Never! Then, at about 7.00 o'clock Mario called my attention to a tall, thin individual, who was running like a madman towards the highway. Some four or five seconds later, my neighbour shouted: "Look, Bruno! Look! It's taking off!" And so I saw it too . . ."

As we have chosen to give a synthesis of the eyewitnesses' statements, we break off Stafforini's account at this point to make it known that in substance he fully confirms the description given by Mario Claretto. We would, however, point out that our enquiries have established, in the meantime, that this second witness did not watch the "object" for long, not even when it rose up into the air, being engaged as he was in attending to various jobs. Claretto on the other hand actually did observe it for approximately over an hour, with only insignificant breaks. Consequently he is to be regarded as the principal eyewitness. Likewise it is clear that, although the dogs still did not stop barking, Stafforini did not decide to go and remove

that glittering "tinfoil" as he had told Claretto several times that it was his intention to do. In this connection, Stafforini told us: "I didn't go up there, but I told Mario Claretto to go up there himself, and that I would join him as soon as I had finished feeding the chickens".

So now we ask ourselves: why did not Claretto go immediately to see what was happening? Well, this witness simply asserts that, apart from his "chore" of making the mayonnaise, another reason for his not having gone out at once was the following:—

"I am a person who is affected with a heart ailment. Consequently, being a cardiopath, I need a couple of hours of 'running-in' so that I can take the risk of taking an up-hill walk. That's another reason why I didn't go up there at once to look."

As regards the third witness, we are referring here of course to Signor Mario Claretto's wife who, on this point, made the following statement:

"It would have been around 7.00 a.m., and, although still in bed, I was awake. Hearing my husband shouting to Stafforini that something was taking off, I went out on to the balcony and so I too was able to see this round thing, stationary at first, and then moving. What a sensation I felt! What a beautiful thing! What colours! Before I die, anyway, I've seen something that I had never believed in when I heard folk talking about such things. Having once seen such an object, I can never again say that I don't believe in those things we call 'flying saucers' or 'UFOs' . . ."

Claretto's and Stafforini's Feelings at the Time

As regards the sensations experienced by Mario Claretto, this is what he told us:

"I wasn't in the least bit frightened. Instead, I enjoyed a beautiful spectacle. When that machine rose up, it looked just like a flying saucer. The word 'UFO' didn't come into my mind. I said to myself: "It'll be a flying saucer." And that sort of brick-coloured mist or vapour was a marvellous thing. Seeing that it has been erroneously stated in some newspapers that my wife and I were frightened, I repeat that what we saw was a real and true spectacle, a magnificent thing, incredible and spectacular, especially for its colours. When I talk of an orange 'head-light', I am certainly mistaken, because to describe that colour perfectly would be impossible. I was happy to observe that orange colour as the cupola was rotating, though, as I repeat, it was a colour that I have never seen before.

Fig. 2 Arrow indicates landing site on hillside.

Fig. 3 Antonio Chiumiento with Mario Claretto (right).

The 'head-light' did not dazzle; there wasn't any light going towards the meadow. The spectacle lay just in that! It was the colours themselves: the 'orange' wasn't *orange,* the 'brown' wasn't *brown,* and so on. When, reading the newspapers, I found articles that talked about the 'flying saucers', or, as they say, the 'UFOs', I always confined myself to reading just the main part, just the headlines, the gist, because the news didn't interest me. To tell you the truth, my wife and I were absolute disbelievers in those things, and in fact we aren't interested in Science Fiction. But — now that we have seen such a strange machine as that, why, now we do believe that the 'flying saucers' truly do exist! I confess that both of us, before we die, would like to see again so marvellous a spectacle, observe once more something in the existence of which we had never believed before. We shall certainly give everything far more attention in future."

As for Signor Stafforini, when he saw the object gaining altitude, he thought at first that it must absolutely be the Portobello balloon! At any rate, he told us that it looked like an apple with these colours: silver, red, and black. "In my opinion", he told us, *inter alia,* "It was something that was sending and receiving messages, and photographing. But in fact I wasn't scared by the sight of it."

To sum up, it seems that only the two dogs (though no doubt a treatise on its own would have to be written for that other party, the unknown man who ran away!) behaved in a fashion that would indicate that they were frightened or that, at any rate, there was something upsetting them and enraging them.

The Behaviour of the Dogs

It should not be forgotten that the dog that was on a chain was so enraged that it almost broke it, while the other dog, which was free, kept running to a distance of about 80 metres where it then stopped and started barking in the direction of the field of alfalfa where the 'object' was, and would then come straight back to near its owner's feet, and this it did several times. And while all that was going on there was not the slightest sound heard from the 'object'.

"The dog *Spiro* — the one that was not tied up", Signor Claretto told us, "does not merely bark when he realizes that somebody is out on the road, but he

also runs right out there. But, on the morning in question, he did not behave like that at all, and this clearly shows that he was afraid of something. It should also be added that the dogs did not cease to be very agitated and to keep up their barking until that object departed from the hill."

The Traces

For a while Mario Claretto spoke to nobody about the affair. Then he decided to mention it to his son-in-law, Signor G.C., who had come to spend the weekend in the country with them. The son-in-law displayed anger because he had not been awakened, for he is passionately interested in 'certain things', and he at once went up to the field himself to investigate.

According to what we have been told by the Clarettos, who have never been up there themselves to look, the son-in-law declared that, at the spot where the unknown "object" was said to have landed, the alfalfa appeared to be crushed, and all around there was a substance resembling "mist" or "ashes". Furthermore, the examination of the traces served to confirm that the "thing" must not have been so very big: the eyewitnesses had estimated its diameter at 5 metres at the most.

We should mention that the present report is the result of two exhaustive enquiries conducted by us on June 11, 1983, and July 2, 1983.

In the first of these probes, we had the effective collaboration of the investigators A. Micela and M. Nebbia of the Torino (Turin) Branch of C.U.N., and of P. Toselli, an investigator from nearby Alessandria. Subsequently, by telephone, we received further useful information on the case from Roberto Balbi, of the Genoa Branch of C.U.N., who himself went to Varzi to make additional enquiries. On June 13, 1983, investigaor Massimo Nebbia of Torino conducted an interview by telephone with the son-in-law, Signor G.C., residing at Robecco sul Naviglio, Province of Milano, who provided certain particulars regarding the episode. The details secured from Signor G.C. are as follows. (Full details about Signor G.C. himself are in our files):—

"Signor G.C. got out of bed at around 8.00-8.30 a.m., and is said to have been informed that a "black, yellow, and silver-coloured object" had landed in the field opposite the house. Since he is himself quite interested in these things (we must however emphasise that he never used either of the terms "UFO" or 'flying saucer, and that, though he may have read a few books, he speaks in general merely of 'these things') — he says that he went to the field to see whether the object that his wife's parents had seen had left any marks. Arrived at the field, he saw a circular area some 2-3 metres in diameter in which the alfalfa appeared bent — bent and not flattened — (this explanation was given on our request) in the direction of the road, i.e. towards the valley. The location of this circular area was at about ten metres from the road and in his opinion, there was little likelihood that it could have been caused by anyone trampling on the alfalfa. During his visit to the site his wife was also present. The circular mark had no other particular features, and he makes no reference to the whitish substance which his mother-in-law said had been seen inside the circle."

Publication of the Affair in the Newspapers

Signor Claretto has told us: "I would not have wanted to say anything to the journalists about the episode, but on that Sunday in question the son-in-law of my landlord was also among our guests. After listening to the account of the sighting given to my relatives, the landlord's son-in-law requested my permission for him to talk about it with one of his cousins, a certain Franco Draghi, who works as a journalist on the newspaper *La Provincia Pavese*, and I consented. I and my wife and the Stafforinis were very hesitant about agreeing to requests to meet journalists. The fact is, we were afraid they would think we were mad. But after hearing that hundreds of other people had seen a strange thing in the sky on the following day, we finally decided to consent, and this is how the report of what we had seen was published in both the local and the national press."

Lost Evidence

The terrain (— just outside Varzi, along the provincial highway leading to Nivione, and at Cà Bianca to be precise) where the three eyewitnesses say the mysterious "machine" landed, is planted with alfalfa as a hay-crop. Unfortunately the alfalfa was cut the very next day after the sighting, which is to say five days before our first investigation on the site, and in the whole field the remains of the alfalfa seemed very dry. The whole area in question, and especially the spot picked out in accordance with Signor Claretto's direct indications, presented no noteworthy features.

The Two Mysterious Individuals

Farmer Tornari, "guilty" of having cut the alfalfa on which the traces (presumed) of the unwanted 'object' would have remained, informed several people, including the press, of a fact that would deepen still further the mystery of the possible UFO.

This is what he told the Clarettos: "Two days after the landing, that is to say, on the Tuesday morning, even before the report had been published in the newspapers, I was turning over the alfalfa, already dry, that I had cut the day before, when I saw a car

with an Alessandria number-plate approaching from the Piedmont direction (the borders of the Province of Piedmont lie not far off, to the West) and stop near my field. Two individuals in white overalls got out of it and took readings with some strange instruments pointed towards the spot where the mysterious object had touched down. As soon as I got near them, they departed in haste without saying a word."

The Mysterious Deaths of the Hens

In order to give just about everything regarding the case in question, we also report the following matter, but not before we have made it clear that we refrain from expressing any opinion of our own regarding these statements.

The Clarettos have told us: "A couple of days after the episode (of the UFO), we found our broody hen dead, without managing to discover why. We found the eggs on which she had been sitting lying all around her, but not under her. What has left us not a little perturbed is the fact that her head was completely white, whereas usually the head gets redder when the bird dies. Furthermore, one of our neighbours in our building complained to us that, precisely during those same days, two of her hens had also died without any apparent reason."

The Investigations by the Carabinieri

As soon as the news of the landing had spread through the town, the Carabinieri (Gendarmerie) arrived. Marshal of Carabinieri Giovanni Peroncini gathered statements from the witnesses and sent a detailed report on the episode to Captain Bevacque, Commandant of Carabinieri at Voghera, under which jurisdiction Varzi lies. There are no grounds for doubting the good faith of the eyewitnesses. All three, according to the Carabinieri Marshal, enjoy excellent "psychic equilibrium". Consequently, in this official's opinion, there is absolutely no question of their being visionaries or fanatics. Moreover, we are in a position to know that the Carabinieri are also looking for a fourth eyewitness, namely the person who, after having been close to the "object", was actually seen escaping by the Clarettos and by Stafforini, but, at least up to the present moment, their search has yielded no positive results.

Fig. 4 Antonio Chiumiento (left) interviewing farmer Bruno Stafforini.

Conclusions

The three eyewitnesses appeared to us to be entirely sincere about the sighting. We would point out that Claretto — who is pensioned owing to ill-health — he formerly managed a restaurant in Magenta — has to wear spectacles for close vision; but he sees things very well at a distance. (On this point we did some tests with him that yielded positive results.) We would recall too that the Clarettos have declared repeatedly that never before in their lives had they seen such an "object", with those indescribable colours. All three, when duly interrogated by the writer of this report in the course of his investigation, appeared very sensible folk and they never contradicted themselves on the more important details of the alleged "event". It is a great pity that nobody has managed to identify that unknown fourth man, who would surely have so many other things to tell us! (This is how "proofs" are withheld from Science!)

However, as the Clarettos have said: *"That morning has changed our entire lives. Before that, we didn't believe in those machines or flying saucers called UFOs. Nor, after it, do we now 'believe'. We don't 'believe'. We now KNOW that they exist!"*

In our view, it is not necessary to be physicists or meteorologists or aeronautical engineers, etc., to feel fully entitled to *laugh* — in the truest sense of the word *'laugh'* — when we read the views of a bee-keeping expert about the Varzi sighting, as published in some of the newspapers! Here is his opinion, maintained by him with the utmost conviction:—

"The shining object seen by Signor and Signora Claretto and by the farmer Stafforini was nothing more than a huge swarm of bees that, seeking a cool place, had alighted during the night of Saturday to Sunday on the alfalfa field of farmer Tornari. Next morning, warmed by the rays of the Sun, the bees flew away buzzing as is their habit."

NOTE

After reading this report on our investigations, some doubt might be felt regarding the possible dimensions of the "object" — particularly its *height*.

Claretto did in fact tell us that the lower part of the "thing" was concealed by the alfalfa. So we consulted an agricultural syndicate to ascertain the maximum height to which this crop can grow. And we have learnt that, in certain conditions, it can reach (and even surpass, though not greatly) the height of *one metre*. This entirely confirms what the three witnesses had told us about the height of that alfalfa crop at the time. In fact they said it was *more than a metre*.

Should anyone be wondering what became of the cupola of the machine when it was "retracted", in connection with this question of the possible height of the craft, we would say that nobody can reject the possibility that it was a retractable dome (as some types of telescope are retractable.)*

*NOTE BY EDITOR, FSR

Signor Chiumiento appears not to know that there are several clear cases on record in the UFO literature indicating that retractable types of craft exist. One of the best known is perhaps that of the machine seen by the German town-mayor Herr Linke and his daughter in the forest near Hasselbach, Meiningen, in the spring of 1952, shortly before their escape from East Germany. The particular type of craft in question stood on a sort of stem or shaft. When the machine took off, they saw how the saucer itself seemed to "climb up its central shaft", the stem below being retrated upwards and eventually emerging on the top.

As regards that fourth eyewitness whom the Clarettos and Stafforini saw running away from the UFO at Varzi, we may take it as pretty certain that the Italian authorities (and maybe other "interested parties" also?) will have seen to it that *he* is never traced by the C.U.N. investigators!

Alfalfa is the name usually given in the USA and various other parts of the world to the type of cattle-fodder widely known in Europe as *lucerne.*

The Varzi landing

PART ONE: ENCOUNTER AT TALAVERA: MYSTERY OF THE VANISHING BULLETS AND CARTRIDGE CASES

Juan José Benítez
(Translation from Spanish. G.C.)

(Reprinted from FSR Vol. 23, No. 5, February 1978.)

Although our UFO reports come from almost every area of the globe, we are constantly being taken to task because (although we possess no staff, no offices, and no permanent archives) we are unable to supply readers with fresh follow-up stories about all these weird happenings, 99% of which are never referred to again by anybody! This time, as it so happens, we have a remarkable follow-up on a Spanish occurrence of eight years ago, and we therefore make no apology for reprinting our original story by way of an introduction to the new material. — EDITOR

THIS case occurred in the early hours of November 12, 1976, on the Spanish Air Force Base at Talavera La Real, close to the Spanish-Portuguese frontier. It is simply staggering.

The fact that the three witnesses were obliged to remain at the Base, doing their military service, until a short while ago, made it necessary for us to keep quiet about the affair. I am now making the details of it available for the first time, having secured them myself from the three airmen concerned.

On the morning in question — at about 1.45 a.m. — José María Trejo and Juan Carrizosa Luján were on sentry duty in the so-called "fuel stock zone" of the Talavera Air Force Base and Jet Aircraft School, which lies a few kilometres from Badajoz. Each of them was in his sentry-box, some 60 metres apart, when they heard strange noises.

"At first it sounded like typical radio interference. Then, all of a sudden, in the total darkness of the night, the noise changed to a sort of acute, penetrating whistle . . . so piercing that it hurt our ears . . ."

Their initial surprise had by now given way, as was only natural, to concern: there might be an intruder in the fuel stock zone. It might be an attempt to commit sabotage. But the penetrating whistle continued for only five minutes. Then all was quiet again.

Then they heard a strange noise again, near José Trejo's sentry-box. José called to Juan Carrizosa to come over and help him to search the area. Both men were equipped with the standard rifle, the quick-firing *Z—62,* and the prescribed amount of ammunition.

Once more there was silence for five minutes, and then the whistle came again. "We thought we would go mad with it, it was so sharp, so penetrating. It seemed our ear drums were going to be ruptured."

The noise went on for a further five minutes or so. Then, silence again. But this time, as the whistling ended, they saw a light high overhead in the sky, like a flare. It lit up a wide area beneath, over towards Badajoz. It lasted for only fifteen or twenty seconds and then vanished.

A few minutes later, while the men were still getting over their astonishment, they were joined by a third sentry, José Hidalgo, with one of the Air Base's Alsatian (German Shepherd) guard-dogs. It was Hidalgo's job to make a constant tour, visiting all the sentry-posts. He asked if they had seen the brilliant glow and they confirmed that they had.

Near the two sentry-posts there is a small hut (which I saw myself later when I visited the Base). The guards and a corporal sleep there. Trejo and Carrizosa went over to the hut and sounded the alarm. The support guards were soon on the spot, under Corporal Pavón, who decided that a general search of the area should now be made. So the three soldiers, Trejo, Carrizosa and José Hildago, set out for the fuel stockpile. It was a totally dark, pitch-black night. They had gone about 300 metres, hugging the adobe wall that surrounds the Base, on the other side of which lies the main road to Badajoz. All was silent round about them.

A "whirlwind"

The dog-handler was talking about the possibility of an intruder. The dog himself, however, was absolutely quiet. These dogs are trained for their job, and the men drew confidence from the dog's apparent calm. Suddenly, however, just as they were approaching a new sentry-box that was under construction, they experienced a sort of "whirlwind". So they loaded their rifles. And stood peering into the darkness and listening.

As Trejo explained later to me in his account of the affair, the "whirlwind" — or whatever it may have been — was localized in one spot.

Then suddenly they heard a sound, as of branches being broken, in a plantation of eucalyptus trees nearby. At once they loosed the dog, which dashed off into the night, towards the spot from which the sound of breaking branches seemed to have come. Gripping their rifles, the three men waited, expecting to hear the dog barking. But no bark came.

After what seemed to them an eternity but must in fact have been only a few seconds, the dog came back to them, but staggering, "as though seasick". He was reacting as though "something" or "someone" had thrashed him and terrified him . . .

"We were baffled. Four or five times we got the dog to go back to the eucalyptus trees. And every time he came back in just the same way . . .. His ears seemed to be hurting . . .he was whimpering . . . Then, when he returned to us for the last time, he started circling round us."

This behaviour, as the soldiers explained to me, is something that these guard-dogs are taught to do when there is any sort of danger threatening the sentries. By circling constantly round and round them, the dogs are giving warning that something is amiss, and are placing themselves as a barrier, a protection, against whatever threatens.

When the dog began to circle around, the three soldiers became really alarmed, and felt that the time had come for them to do something. They shouted at the tops of their voices several times, but no response came out of the darkness. Nothing but the snarling of the guard-dog, moving faster and faster around them.

Then Trejo had a "sensation", as though "someone" were behind him, and felt cold shivers run through his stomach. He glimpsed a greenish light out of the corner of his eye and, wheeling around, beheld the most fantastic thing he had ever seen in his life. It was

a human figure, or at least so it seemed, but very tall. Three metres at least. And only fifteen metres from them.

Attempting to re-live and recapture the experience and tell me about it, the three men said: "What was it like? Well, it was a light. A green light. Like the green colour of a match in the night."

And the strangest part of it was that, as one of the soldiers added, the "luminous figure" seemed to consist entirely of small points of light. Along the periphery of the figure, these luminous points were more intense. The head of the apparition looked small, and seemed to be covered with a sort of helmet. The arms were long, and the body thick.

"Like a bobbin"

I asked whether it was on the ground. Yes, it was on the ground, the men replied, but they had been unable to see either the feet or the legs. They said it was like a bobbin or spindle. Thick, and without legs. At least, they had been unable to see any.

The apparition's arms were crossed. The hands, however, seemed as badly defined as the feet and legs.

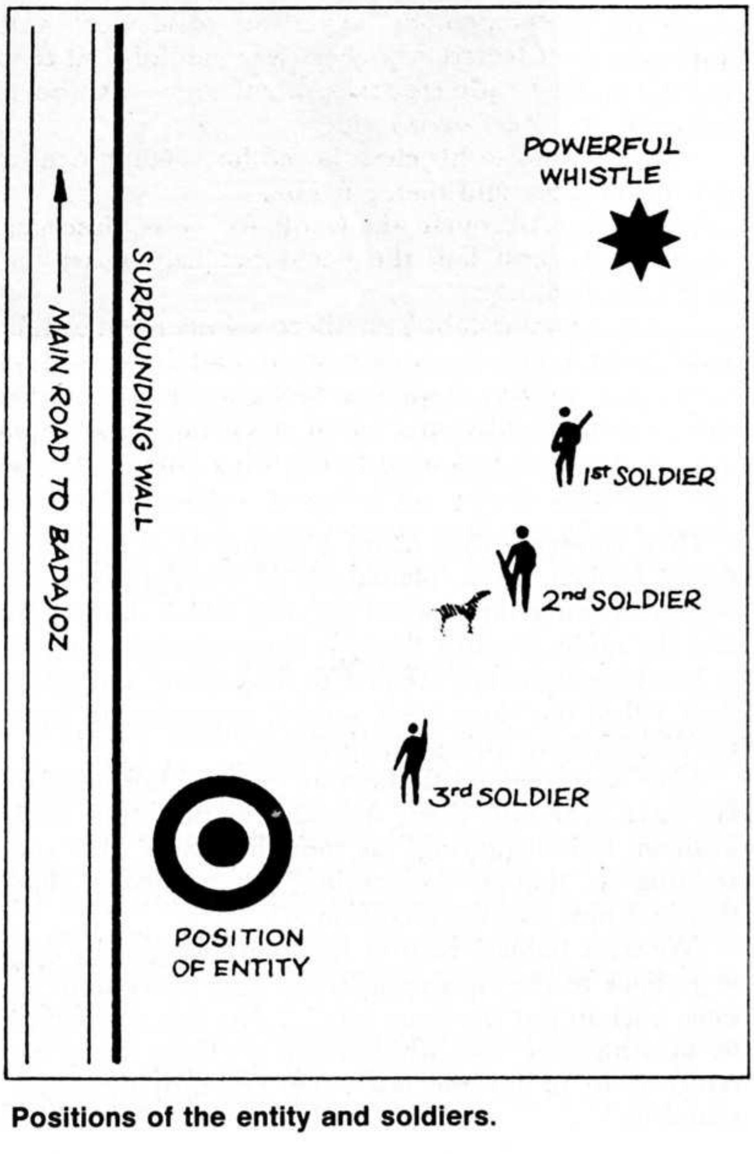
Trejo, who had been the first to see it, stood paralyzed with astonishment and terror. He has no idea how long it was before he could react — maybe ten or fifteen seconds, he thinks. He had his rifle at the ready, all set to shoot, but when he did decide to do so he felt as though totally bound and shackled. He was quite unable to fire. Then he started to feel, as he put it, a sensation of general weakness. He could still see and hear all right, but he had the sensation that he was slowly falling. Just before his knees reached the ground he managed to shout: "Down! They'll kill us!"

That was the last words he could utter. He was face down on the grass. He was still conscious, but there was something wrong with his eyes. His sight seemed to be failing. It was as though everything was slowly being blotted out.

As he shouted, the other two also caught sight of the huge luminous "thing", and saw Trejo go down.

The shots

Simultaneously, Carrizosa and Hildago fired at the apparition, loosing off a total of between 40 and 50



Positions of the entity and soldiers.

shots, all, of course, aimed straight at the gigantic figure.

Trejo, lying on the ground, heard the shots.

And instantly, in the very second that the firing began, like a photographer's "flash" — as one of the soldiers put it — or like the fading out of the image on a television screen when the set is turned off, the apparition simply vanished.

The two other men rushed to help Trejo to his feet, and once more all three heard the whistle, still from the direction of the eucalyptus trees. This time the whistle lasted for ten to fifteen seconds, after which all was again silent.

I asked Trejo to make an effort to recall at precisely what point he had started to feel ill and to feel his strength draining away.

"It's strange," he replied. "It was only when I tried to press the trigger of my rifle that I started to fall."

I asked him why he thought this "strange". Trejo reflected for a moment and then answered, as though talking to himself: "It seemed as though that 'being' had guessed my intentions. But how could that be possible? How could that 'thing' have known that I was just about to pull my trigger?"

I asked him what happened next.

"Well, my companions helped me to my feet, and gradually I recovered. My chest was painful, and that is odd too, for I hadn't fallen suddenly, nor had I been struck in the chest by my rifle."

The dull pain in his chest lasted for some fifteen to twenty minutes, and then left him.

Meanwhile, of course, the whole Air Force Base was on alert. At least half the personnel had heard the bursts of shooting.

As is understandable, the three soldiers had a difficult enough job to explain what had happened to them. But anyway, as soon as daylight came, an officer and a total of fifty men went over the whole area where the affair had occurred "with a fine comb", as the saying goes. And here is one more inexplicable detail that emerged in the course of their search. Not a single cartridge case could be found, out of the total of forty to fifty that had been fired. How on earth could such a thing be possible?

And if that wasn't already enough, to the vast amazement of the top brass of the Base, and the officers and the three soldiers themselves, the adobe wall of the Base, which is quite close to the spot and ought to have shown the marks of most of the shots, bore not the slightest trace whatsoever of the shooting.

The men's rifles, needless to say, had definitely been fired. This fact was confirmed by the Air Force experts who were called in to investigate the case.

What, then, can have become of those cartridge cases and those bullets, nearly fifty of them? What was it that those sentries encountered?

The soldiers emphasised that they had fired the shots at medium height. "We simply cannot understand how it could be that not one of the shots hit that wall which was right there in front of us!" But this was not the end of the affair.

Sent to hospital

A few days after the incident, José Trejo walked into the Mess Hall at the Base and suddenly exclaimed: "What a poor light there is in here!"

As he explained it to me later, "My vision began to fail, until it was gone altogether. I was terrified. Then, so they tell me, they transferred me to the Sick Bay. For a quarter of an hour I reacted to nothing. I had lost consciousness. They left me in the Sick Bay, and I stayed there one day. Then I began to recover ... But four or five days later they transferred me to the Badajoz Hospital. There I remained for ten days ..."

I asked him what sort of treatment he was given there.

"They did lots of analyses on me: blood, urine, X-rays, hearing tests, eye tests, etc. But they found nothing. And anyway I felt quite all right by then.

"But a few days after I had come out of the hospital, it all started up again, while I was in the car with my girl-friend. Once more I was unable to see. I had to ask my girl to help me out of the car, and I stayed like that for about a quarter of an hour more or less. Then bit by bit my sight came back again ..."

I asked him how long it was from the happenings of the morning of November 12 until the recurrence. He said it was about fifteen days.

Transferred to Madrid

In view of this repetition of the loss of his vision, the soldier was moved to Madrid. To be precise, he was moved to the Air Force Hospital, the Hospital del Aire. He was booked in there on November 30, 1976. He remained there one month and was subjected to every manner of investigation and analysis.

I asked him what explanation the doctors there had been able to give him for his condition?

"None. They just said that I had 'a nervous maladjustment'. But I never really found out what was happening to me."

He had another "attack" of the trouble while he was in the Air Force Hospital. This time, he got a very severe headache and started thrashing up and down in the bed. And once more his sight began to fail.

I asked him what the headache was like.

"It nearly always began just before my sight began to go. First of all I would get a pain in the nape of the neck. Then in the forehead. And then finally I would go blind."

Since then it seems that the soldier José M. Trejo, who is 21 years old, has experienced no further abnormal symptoms. His state of health is perfect, and his life is totally normal.

When I interrogated the three soldiers and asked them what they thought it was that they had seen and fired at, their answer was unanimous:

"We don't know exactly what it was. But on one score we all have no doubt whatsoever — because all three of us saw it — and that is, that the 'thing' was something very much like a man, but very tall . . ."

So there we have it — one of the most spectacular "occupant" cases so far. And, as stated above, I have secured it exclusively as no other investigator has got it.

Many unknown factors of course still surround this fascinating case. What can have become of the bullets — almost half a hundred of them — that were fired at the "being"? How is it that not a single one of the bullets was found in the adobe wall lying immediately behind the enigmatic "being"? That the rifles were definitely fired, that is a fact. I know that for a certainty.

Weird as this case is, it must be added that certain of the features described in this report have already occurred in other cases. For example, there are those on record in which figures have appeared — generally of human form — presenting a totally non-material appearance, and with an intense luminous radiation around them. There have also been cases in which sounds were heard similar to those heard by the sentries, and where the same glow was seen in the sky. All of which leads me to the conclusion that this affair at the Military Air Base of Talavera La Real, near Badajoz, can definitely be catalogued as a case of the apparition of one of the members of a UFO 'crew'.

PART TWO: NEW AND DRAMATIC MATERIAL ON THE CASE AT TALAVERA LA REAL

Geneviève Vanquelef, Déleguée Régionale, LDLN

(Translation from French)

Geneviève Vanquelef's remarkable new report is taken from *Lumières Dans La Nuit,* No. 245/246 (November/December 1984), to whose Editor and *Comité de Rédaction,* as well of course as to the authoress, we hereby record our very special and particular thanks. — EDITOR

On November 18, 1981, a magnetic tape, minus its case, was found in the baggage compartment of French train No. 377 running from Geneva to Port-Bou (on the Franco-Spanish frontier at the extreme eastern end of the Pyrenees).

On being played, the cassette proved to contain a conversation in Spanish, so the railway employee who had found it gave it to a Frenchman named Michel Rouanet who is very keen on taping music. Before erasing the Spanish conversation, however, Monsieur Rouanet first played it through in the presence of his wife, who happens to be Spanish by origin herself. She was consequently amazed by what she heard: *a lively discussion about UFOs, blinded soldiers, a dog burnt to death, etc.* Equally astonished was her husband for, as it happens, he belongs to the *Orion UFO Investigation Group* at Béziers, near Montpelier in the South of France. So Monsieur Rouanet took the precious cassette along to the Group's next meeting, where André Mortès made a French translation of it. By means of a good deal of checking and cross-checking it was possible to discover where the original landing case had taken place, and everything pointed to the fact that it must be the case at Talavera La Real of which an account had been published on page 13 of *LDLN* No. 187 (August/September 1979).

This turned out to be the record of an interview that had been conducted aboard the same train in which the cassette was found. You can hear the sound of the train lurching, and sometimes the time being announced, and the names of certain stations. The interview was at night, in one of the coaches, between parties who were seated. At times you can hear the voices of other travellers in the compartment. The cassette was one of several, and it seems that it got left in the train by accident. The person who is doing the questioning seems unquestionably of the sort of level of someone who has had a university education, and both parties speak a good Spanish, without regional accents.

The person being interviewed is in fact the CHIEF WITNESS in the close encounter case at Talavera La Real, and he gives some fantastic details of that case which had been suppressed by the Spanish Army at

the time. This witness speaks with great conviction, but always soberly and intelligently. The talk is studded here and there with elaborate but natural and vivid philosophical discussions (on such themes as lying, fear, oral expression, and such like).

The Close Encounter at Talavera La Real: The Original Sources

Here is a summary of Jacques Scornaux's story as given in *LDLN* No. 187:—

"At about 1.45 a.m. on November 12, 1976, three sentries at the Badajoz Spanish Air Force Base, alerted by a piercing sound, go to inspect the area where the stock of fuel is kept. Then they hear a crashing noise in the bushes, their dog behaves strangely and they see a vivid light, and they load their rifles.

Then they beheld a sort of green apparition three metres high, of human appearance, consisting of small points of light, its legs if any not being visible. The soldier closest to it was paralyzed with terror. The other soldiers fired and the apparition instantly disappeared. Next day, on the wall behind which the apparition had stood, not a single mark from the shots could be found, and there was not a single spent cartridge-case on the ground. During the following weeks the paralyzed soldier had trouble with his eyesight and headaches."

The source on which Jacques Scornaux had drawn for his account was an article by Juan José Benitez translated into English by Gordon Creighton and published in *Flying Saucer Review* Vol. 23, No. 5 (February 1978). In that same year, 1978, the French UFO journal *Ouranos* also carried a translation of the Benítez report, which had reached them from their correspondent in Portugal. Jacques Scornaux made a comparison of these two translations and concluded: "They are very similar, and obviously give the same story by J. J. Benítez with, at the very most, just a few variations in details such as are normal in cases where translations are made by different individuals into different languages."

The principal witness at Talavera La Real was said to be José María Trejo. His first-hand account of the affair, as recorded by J. J. Benítez, agrees completely with the version given on the cassette. Here it is:—

"Then I distinctly felt a presence. It was just like the feeling we get that someone is watching us from behind. I looked to the side and saw behind me, on my left, a spherical light. Then, wheeling round quickly, I found myself facing something absolutely extraordinary such as I have never seen before: it was a human form, or at least it seemed to be. It was big, nearly three metres in height. I was only ten or fifteen metres from the fantastic thing. It was a green light, like the light of a green phosphorous match at night. The strangest part of it all was that this luminous form seemed to consist of small points of light. Its periphery was marked by more intensely vivid points of light. The head was small, and seemed as though covered with a sort of helmet. The body looked like a wide spindle, seemingly without legs. The arms were crossed. It's strange, but at the precise moment that I was about to press the trigger of my rifle, I felt myself suddenly go weak. I was overcome by a sensation of general weakness. But I could see and I could hear. Before falling to the ground, I managed to shout to my comrades to get down. I was unable to say any more. Still conscious, and lying face down to the ground, I found my sight beginning to weaken strangely, just as though darkness were slowly coming on ... I was also able to see the enormous luminous thing ... Then my comrades helped me to get up ... My chest was painful and that seemed strange, for I could not have hurt myself with my rifle as I fell. The pain wore off after twenty minutes."

A few days later, the investigator (Benítez) reports, José María Trejo suddenly felt his sight beginning to fail just as he was walking into the camp mess-hall. Totally blind, he was led off to the sick-bay, where he remained completely unconscious for at least a quarter of an hour.

Then he was transferred to the Badajoz Hospital for lots of medical tests. Nothing abnormal was found. But, two days after he had left the hospital, he fell ill again. He was then sent to the Air Force Hospital in Madrid, where he was placed under observation and examined and tested for a month. But all they were able to establish there was that he had suffered a great nervous shock.

Extracts from the Cassette

After a discussion about vital energy, the witness expresses the idea that our vital energy is controlled by something exterior to us and superior to us. "This something" is operated by someone...

Q. (the questioner asks). "Did you see this 'someone'?"

Q. "During a spiritualistic séance?"

A. "No. During my military service on guard duty. *I saw a machine about 100 metres wide, as big as a football pitch.* I had my rifle and I had a dog with me. *I saw a million lights underneath it. A door opened, held by an individual. I wanted to shoot. I received a discharge, the sort that leaves you blind! The dog leapt into the air, and was burnt to death before it touched the ground again!*

Q. "You don't think that maybe it was an hallucination?"

A. "A hallucination doesn't kill a dog! I was stretched out on the ground, and my mates fired. *The*

machine vanished at the speed of a photographic flash. I was *stunned,* I felt a violent pain in my chest ... It went right through my chest ..."

At this point the recording is interrupted by various noises: the announcement of a station, and a comment by a passenger ... Then the discussion starts again, on the subject of fear in man. Then:

A. "We had all gone out from the guard-room, after hearing intermittent noises, like a radio, at intervals of five minutes. A quarter of an hour after the noises had started, there was *an explosion of light brighter than the Sun."*

Q. "Were you the only one who saw it?"

A. "No, all the lads turned out. That light made a big impression on them all. The Corporal came running up with his dog and asked us whether we had seen anything. We all turned out, thinking someone was attacking the aviation fuel depot — which, if it had exploded — would have wiped out Badajoz, 17 kilometres distant. We tried to contact the Base (Headquarters). *But there was no telephone, no electricity, no radio contact* . . . So we all turned out ... all except the Sergeant, because he was drunk and very scared ... "We had to do something to react, at all cost ... All I could see was this chap who stood there for about fifteen seconds ... Was it a man, or was it a robot? He was 35 or 40 metres* from me. A glass globe on his head, a sort of astronaut's space-suit, all made of metal, of a green, phosphorescent colour ... Arms and the rest of the body much bigger..."

Q. "Were his body and his arms very stiff?"

A. "Yes — that's it! After this contact, I had a very quick development of my brain..."

Q. "Do you think that was due to the shock of the charge of energy you had received?"

A. "No, I don't think so. I think it is due to 'something' that it isn't given to everyone to experience from the intellectual point of view; 'something' very superior to me influenced me with its power, it demonstrated to me that it was stronger than the whole Army that I had behind me! I was totally powerless. I understood that there were very superior forces, capable of constructing such a perfect machine and of producing such an energy. *They killed the dog and they didn't kill me!* So they have to be very intelligent to know how to utilize that energy like that ... Yet the *'chap'* facing me was empty-handed ... *It was just when I wanted to press the trigger that he raised his hands! It was just at that precise moment that I received the discharge;* neither I nor the doctors have been able to identify that energy ... I was terribly ill, blind, stunned, they took me to the Medical Centre in Madrid ... *I remained in a coma for three months. Everything I've said has been classified as 'a military secret'.* One male nurse merely told me: *'If you were to hear all you've said, you'd go crazy!'*

... After this experience I've developed on all levels: intelligence, quickness of mind, Ethics, Mathematics ... *Yet, at the moment when it happened, I refused to communicate* ... Certain persons are fitted for communicating with the UFOs, and others are not ... *After this contact, I felt an intense development of my brain, I experienced a sensation of superiority, of quickness of mind ... It happens to me that I re-live moments that are past, or that will come in a thousand years' time ... one has the power to travel mentally ... I had never had any premonitory dreams about what has happened to me ... But at present, I often have extrasensory perceptions about my future* ... However, I'm not a day-dreamer, I prefer the present, action, studying people, society, animals..."

Comments

The first remark that it comes into one's mind to make relates to the extraordinary chance that has saved this cassette from destruction. It came into the hands of one of the few and rare railway workers in that region of France whose wife, being herself of Spanish origin, was able to see that it concerned a UFO case. Here is Monsieur Rouanet's own written account:—

"The BASF magnetic tape, lacking its plastic case, and with the two plastic strips that characterize a virgin tape, for recording with a simple present-day portable machine, was found in the baggage compartment of train No. 377 at Cerbère on the morning of November 18, 1981. It was given to me by one of my work-mates. Finding that it contained an animated discussion which was of no interest to him, he said: 'Take it, you can tape over it.'

"My own work with the SNCF (French Railways) involves, *inter alia,* work in connection with sound-tests.

"By pure chance I got my wife Anne-Marie to listen to the tape, and as a result it turned out for me to be an absolutely providential piece of documentation. For I have been passionately interested in everything to do with Space for more than fifteen years — space travel, astronomy, UFOs, etc.

"So on December 21, 1981, I took the cassette to the Orion UFO Study Group in Béziers (I am a native of Béziers). Their president at the time was André Mortès (since deceased in April 1982) and he made a French translation of the gist of the discussion."

The New Details

I have italicized the various new details provided in this taped interview, which was made four years after

the original investigation (in Spain by J. J. Benítez).

The witness's difficulties in describing the apparition have now disappeared. The initial light described by him has now become a machine. The being, who has now become human, gets out of the craft, he is wearing a metallic one-piece suit . . . he raises his arms . . . The "apparition" aspect of the original account (despite the strange material details that the cartridge-cases had vanished and there were no impact marks on the wall) has faded out quite remarkably in this second account. And the two details in question are themselves absent from the tape. But we must not forget that, in the opinion of our translator who made the French version from the cassette, the story was continued on a following tape. Obviously the most salient features of the affair are what emerge in the witness's memory, and possibly these are such as would reinforce his own *a posteriori* interpretation of the phenomena?

Nevertheless certain details surely cannot be invented: for example — the dog burnt to death before it touched the ground. We know of other eyewitness accounts of similar cases: cases in which the dog and the man are both struck by the same beam coming from a saucer: and the dog dies on the spot or two or three days later, while the man gets off with less serious injuries.

Likewise, in the original Spanish account the failures of the electricity and the telephone are omitted.

The most glaring of the discrepancies between the two accounts concern the injuries suffered by José María Trejo himself. On the cassette he makes no mention of his first period in hospital as the result of two temporary spells of blindness, but he does claim on the cassette that he had been in hospital, and completely unconscious, for three months.

Did the victim intentionally minimize the gravity of his condition when the first investigation was being made or has he dramatized and exaggerated his condition during the second interrogation? No doubt a bit of both is involved! But we do find, on the cassette, precisely that sort of subsequent psychic transformation (so often reported) following upon close contact with a UFO[1]. Intuitive knowledge gradually makes its appearance, there is an expansion of consciousness but there is also, one must admit, an admiration (very suspect) for the unparalleled power of this "extra-human" intervention.

Do contactees become 'manipulatees'?

One interesting additional detail may be noted:-

"At that same Spanish airfield, in 1964, a chimney-stack had been destroyed by a strange column of smoke."

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. See G. Vanquelef: *OVNI. Enlèvements. captures. (UFO Abductions and Kidnappings.)*
(No English translation known. G.C.)

* *Here is an important discrepancy. In J. J. Benítez's original account and in the Portuguese version it had been only 15 metres.* (G.C.)

UFOs, JINNS & POLTERGEISTERY AT JOAQUIM MURTINHO

Professor Húlvio Brant Aleixo, President of CICOANI UFO Investigation Group, Belo Horizonte, State of Minas Gerais, East-Central Brazil.

(Translation from Portuguese)

This interesting case, which was investigated in depth and recorded by Húlvio Brant Aleixo, one of Brazil's pioneers in Ufology (and a very old friend and contributor to FSR) is translated from SBEDV Special Bulletin No. 158/161(May-December 1984) published in Rio de Janeiro by Dr. Walter K. Buhler, to whom we express our very special thanks. — EDITOR

On the evening of November 2, 1977, the 16-year old youth L.C.J.A. was alone in his aunt's house on the rua Dom Oscar de Oliveira in the town of Joaquim Murtinho, State of Minas Gerais, watching the TV, with all the doors and windows of the house closed.

The Machine In The House

Suddenly he heard a brief noise like a burst of high wind (and it was a perfectly calm evening), and he heard footsteps inside the house. Then to his amazement, he saw a strange machine entering through the

kitchen door. Flying silently through the room, it went towards the TV, and immediately, the plug came out of the socket on the wall and fell gently to the floor, switching off the television. The machine was "Saturn-shaped", for it consisted of a luminous bluish ball encircled by a ring of golden light, and about a metre wide. Then it went out of the room and, after sweeping through the kitchen and the bedroom it began floating, at a height of a metre from the floor, near the kitchen door, which had opened mysteriously.

L.C. was now standing in the sitting room, watching the thing, when suddenly, as it were from nowhere, the figure of a man over two metres in height appeared on the left of him. Dumbfounded, L.C. saw him gesture with his right arm, whereupon a strange light lit up the inside of the house. Then the strange being vanished from sight. L.C. went out and approached the little "Saturn-shaped" machine which was now in the back-yard, spinning round and round above the same spot.

Telepathic Contact

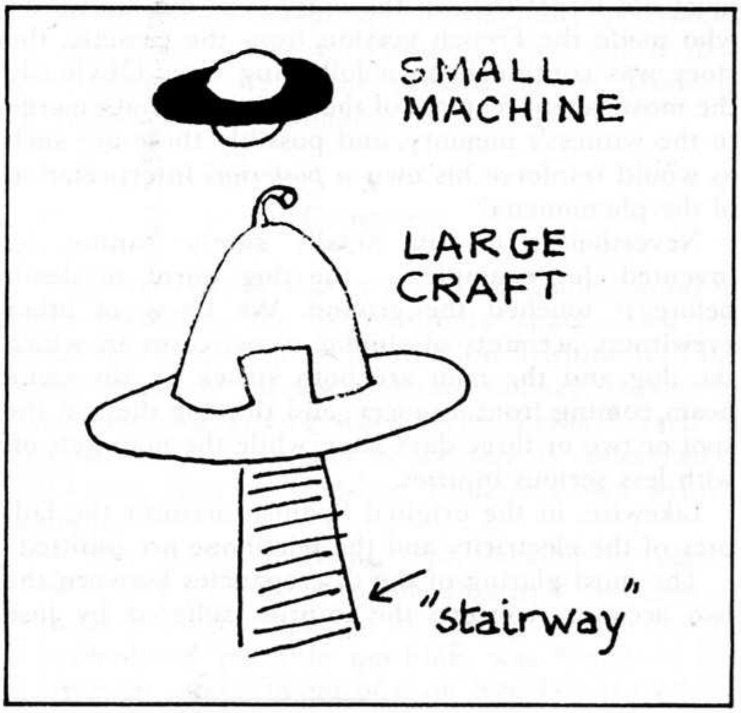
Then, while he was watching it, three strange beings approached him from his right. The tallest of the three was the one who had already appeared to him in the sitting-room, and who was now accompanied by a young woman and a little boy. These three spoke to L.C., calling him by his name, and exhorting him to be calm. But the communication was not oral, it was *telepathic.*

The strange beings came and stood beside him, secured him by the arms, and took him back into the house through the back-door. L.C. felt himself to be very light, almost floating. They all went into the sitting-room, and the beings sat down on the sofa, as though trying it. Standing there watching them, L.C. observed them as they headed next for the bedroom, where the man and the boy extended their hands towards the wardrobe and its doors opened, without being touched. While they were examining the inside of the wardrobe, the woman sat down on the bed and stretched out on it for a few moments, as though trying it. Then all three of them went out to the back-yard again.

The Beings

L.C.'s description of the three beings is as follows:— The man, over 2 m. in height, was lanky and wearing a helmet with a transparent visor, and with two metallic antennae on the top of it. The woman and the boy were not wearing helmets, and were of normal human sizes and consequently had quite normal appearance. Their skin was light, and their hair dark and clinging closely to the head. The skin of the man was of a pale yellowish shade, his eyes blue, and his eyebrows were curved upwards, while his mouth, nose and ears looked entirely normal. On his chin he had a small black goatee beard. His hair was not visible, being covered by the metallic-coloured helmet.

The clothing of all three was identical: a type of close-fitting overall, with bulges where we have pockets. They were wearing gloves and boots, all of a greenish shade. On their wide belts they had a row of black buttons. From the belt of the man hung a tube of grey metallic colour with a black end to it. (This end was similar to the end of the weapon that L.C. saw later.)



The witness's sketches.

The Gigantic UFO

Returning to the back-yard, L.C. beheld a gigantic ladder which, standing on the sloping ground, led to a big glass door in a great machine standing there. Again they took him by the arms and he felt himself floating as it were with his two companions down the ladder. (NOTE: We wrote to Húlvio B. Aleixo On 24/7/84 to ask for an explanation of this, because L.C.'s statement suggested that he proceeded *down* the ladder. He replied that there is no error in the text. The explanation being that the ground on which the UFO was standing, in the uneven terrain, was *lower* than the place where L.C. was standing. Thus he was taken *down* the ladder to the front of the craft, (which also had a small ladder) and was taken back *up* the ladder after leaving it. Dr. W. Buhler)

The craft was as big as a house. Through a transparent section, he was able to see into the inside which was lit up, and where there were several other crew members operating complicated instruments.

Holding him by the arms, they took him back up the ladder, still floating. Arriving at the end of the ladder, near his house, they set L.C. down, moved away from him, and began addressing him in a strange language.

A Fourth Being

At that moment, a lady neighbour, wishing to return a goffering-iron that she had borrowed from L.C.'s aunt, called to her loudly by name, not knowing that she was not at home. At that same instant, L.C. noticed a movement and observed that it was a fourth strange being. Identical in appearance to the man who was accompanying L.C., this other man was carrying a yellowish-coloured weapon and was, partly hidden, at the side of the house. This man made a sweeping gesture with his arm as soon as the neighbour called. At once the three strange beings who were with L.C. vanished into thin air right beside him. He then went round to the front of the house to receive the iron from the neighbour. As he did so, he noticed that, while his three companions had become invisible, the little "Saturn-shaped" flying object was hugging the back of the house as though hiding.

The Departure

Returning now to the back-yard from the front, L.C. encountered his three visitors again. The man pressed one of the buttons on his belt and from it there shot out a shining plate. This plate was placed against the palm of L.C.'s right hand, whereupon the details of his hand all appeared, recorded in colour on the plate. Details of the palm of his left hand were taken in the same way.

Then the three beings lined up before him in Indian file to take leave of L.C. As they did so, they placed their right hands on his breast and said telepathically: *"We shall return! We shall return!"*

When they had gone, L.C. went back into the house via the back door, and found everything absolutely normal again, including the TV, which was working.

He felt a desire to go and get some cigarettes, so he stepped to the front door and, as he was about to take down the key that was hanging there on a nail, the key came off the nail and sailed through the air and landed in his open hand. All he had to do therefore was to put it into the keyhole and turn it and open the door and step out.

Arriving out on the road, he saw the little "Saturn-type" craft take off silently from the back-yard, and vanish into the sky on a slanting trajectory.

Struck Dumb

It was then, and only then, that L.C. suddenly experienced a severe emotional shock, which left him unable to speak.*

Perplexed and confused, unable to utter a word, he arrived at the nearby shop where he wanted to buy his cigarettes. All the people in the shop, including the owner, were struck by his strange, disturbed, and silent manner, while he gestured vainly to them to make them understand. So they ran to his aunt's house to see what was the matter — maybe, as they thought, a fire?

L.C. remained unable to speak for almost two hours. Then, returning to normal, he was able to tell all his family what had happened, they in the meantime being about to get a doctor for him.

Some Predictions

The strange beings had been in mental contact with L.C. throughout the entire episode. Our CICOẠNI UFO Investigation Group from Belo Horizonte interviewed him four times, but he was never able to remember more than a few sparse details of what the beings had said to him, such as: *"We have come from very far away ..."* (They named the place from which they came, but it is unidentifiable as any planet known to us). *"Hundreds and hundreds of years"*, they said. Also: *"Grave problems are going to occur in your family .. "*

As regards this last detail, there were some strange coincidences shortly after the incident: Namely, one of his brothers had a narrow escape from a grave accident when the truck he was driving fell into a lake. Then, a few days later, another brother of his suffered a serious haemorrhage, having thrust his hand through a window and cut the artery in his wrist.

In conclusion, we note various typical parapsychological elements in this case, namely *telepathy, levitation, telekinesis, precognition,* and *materialization/dematerialization.*

H.B.A.
Belo Horizonte, 19/6/84

FOOTNOTE BY EDITOR, FSR

* In the spectacular case some years ago which, as will be recalled, we reported in detail from the French Island of Réunion, the witness also lost the ability to speak after the shock of a close encounter with an entity from a landed machine.

Similarly, in FSR 22/2, we reported the case of the Frenchman R. Cyrus who was left temporarily dumb with shock after an encounter in August 1975. (Also reported in our American paperback, ENCOUNTER CASES FROM FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, New American Library Signet Books, 1977).

And finally, in FSR 23/5 and again on page 10 of this present issue we have the Spanish case at Talavera La Real. At Talavera La Real it was not the power of speech that was temporarily lost but the eyewitness's *eyesight.* G.C.

UFO VISITATIONS AT A HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL IN 1980?

Omar Fowler

Consultant to FSR. Chairman, S.I.G.A.P. (Surrey Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena, Guildford, Surrey).

(As originally published in S.I.G.A.P. Journal *PEGASUS* for November/December 1980.)

High Hurlands Hospital, Passfield, Hants. Door centre, where entity appeared.

THE scene of what seems to have been a series of UFO happenings is High Hurlands Hospital, at Passfield in Hampshire. *Under private administration, it is a small home for mentally handicapped children, and one of the most remarkable aspects of what we have to relate concerns one of these children, and the effect that the presence of a UFO seems to have had on him.*

I took statements (taped) from the principal witnesses on October 15, 1980, and discovered that there had been two main series of events, namely on July 18/19, 1980, and on October 9/10, 1980. On the first occasion there were six witnesses, and on the second there were two.

The First Occasion. A Light, and, later, a "Prowler"

At approximately 8.30 p.m. on July 18, the six nurses in residence in the Nurses' Quarters heard a strange humming noise. One of them, Georgina, gave this account:—

"We heard this funny noise, and we all went outside to see what it was. We saw a light, and we

watched it for about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, and then Hazel remembered that she had a camera in her room and went to fetch it, so that she could take a photograph of it, but I came back indoors because I was frightened. It was just like a big round ball of light and it kept flashing on and off. It seemed to be getting lower and lower. We didn't actually see it land anywhere, it just disappeared."

Duty Nurse Mrs. Diane Edworthy said: "The nurses who saw the light said it was saucer-shaped, and came down to within thirty feet of the ground, in the vicinity of the orchard. It was in the area for about half an hour before it disappeared, though we have been unable to trace anyone who says she actually saw it vanish.

"Helen Monger (Auxiliary Nurse) and I were on duty that same night at a quarter past midnight, when we heard someone out at the back of the building. Then Helen saw a figure go by the back door.

"At thirty-five minutes past midnight, we decided to telephone to the Police, and were just doing so, when I happened to look up at the French windows. I saw a figure in black, at least six ft. tall, looking in through the window at us. He was completely in black, and had a huge helmet over his head."

Helen Monger, the other nurse, also described the figure as being clad in black and "massive". (See sketch.)

Describing the figure in detail, Mrs. Edworthy mentioned that it *"seemed to have no neck"*. She also commented that it "shone" (which may possibly have been due to the moonlight, the Moon being in the first quarter). She continued: "We just saw him standing there. We could not see his face, but he just 'shone' as though his clothing was all leathery, or was some fabric that glistened. He seemed to be 'padded out'. By the time we had just gasped, he had stepped back into the darkness and was gone."

Within a few minutes, their telephone rang. The call was from the nurses in the quarters at the other end of the orchard. They had heard noises too, and the 'prowler' was now down there (nearly half a mile away!), in just two or three minutes! A distance that is a ten to fifteen-minute walk through the orchard, and yet this figure had apparently covered that distance, in darkness, in two or three minutes, through an orchard littered with horse-jumps and ditches, a very hazardous journey for a stranger . . .

Arrival of the Police

Next on the scene were the Police, who arrived about fifteen minutes later, with dogs. The Police checked the soil (quite soft) and the grass around the French windows of the Nurses' Quarters, but found no footprints. The dogs were then brought along, and also taken through the orchard, but they were unable to pick up any scent at all. The Police consequently failed to find any trace of any intruder, and concluded that the Nurses must have imagined the whole incident.

A 'Peeping Tom' or a CE-III Incident?

While we have not discounted the possibility of a more banal explanation, namely a 'Peeping Tom' lurking about, there is little evidence to support such a theory. Alternatively, therefore, it could well have been a CE-III type of incident.

Possible Evidence for a 'Peeping Tom'

There *had* been previous incidents of a prowler seen creeping around near the Nurses' Quarters at night, and an arrangement *had* therefore been made with the local Police for them to take quick action if requested. (A few weeks previously, a man with shoulder-length fair hair had been seen peering in at one of the windows.)

So was this also someone "noseing around" after the local 'pubs' had closed? The answer to this question would certainly seem to be in the negative, as it was a quarter past midnight, and therefore not just after 'closing time'.

Possible Evidence for an 'Alien Entity'

(a) There had just been the UFO incident in the immediate area only a few hours previously. The object had been seen to hover very close to the ground.
(b) It might have still been in the area, as nobody has been traced who saw it depart or disappear.
(c) Some dogs which were kept in the back room on the ground floor of the hospital were described as 'going frantic' at the time when the figure was in the area.
(d) The figure was described as "huge" and "massive", "with no neck", "glowing", etc. This seems inconsistent with a description of a normal person, even taking into account the possibility that he might have been wearing a motorcyclist's suit.
(e) The "helmet" over the head could have been a motorcyclist's helmet, but then no facial features were visible. In that case was he perhaps wearing a black visor? If so, he could hardly have seen his way around in the darkness of the night.
(f) No motorcycle was heard at any time by the Nurses on duty, or by the others who were in the Nurses' Quarters.
(g) If the visitor were a human prowler, how could he move so rapidly to the other Nurses' Quarters at the other side of the orchard, nearly half a mile

Nurse Helen Monger.

away? (There might, of course, have been *two prowlers.*)

(h) The Police could find no traces of any intruder, no footprints, and the tracker-dogs could not pick up any scent.

Conclusions

Our investigations were therefore continued, on the assumption that it could have been a CE-III incident.

The Attempt at Photography

It is understood that the nurse who went and got her camera did attempt to secure two colour photographs, but that when processed in due course the films yielded nothing.

The Second Incident (Night of October 9/10, 1980)

The first witness whom I interviewed (taped transcription, also made on October 15, 1980) was Mrs. Diane Edworthy, the Duty Nurse. Her statement is as follows:—

"At about midnight, October 9/10, Cathy, the girl who was on duty with me, said she could hear a humming noise — which I didn't hear. Though I could not hear it, she was really going mad about this noise, that she said she had *in her head.* I thought she was being fanciful, and did not take any notice, and I went to see the children upstairs. When I looked out of the window, I saw lights in the sky. They[1] were really bright, and that is what made me look.

"It was such a clear night, and the lights could easily be seen. I then went downstairs to get her (Cathy) to come up and have a look. Because the light was moving so slowly. This was at the back of the house. We then went into the front of the house because, as we watched it, the light had disappeared round to the front.

"As we went to the front of the house, we could see a huge star in the sky, and it changed colour. It went from white to blue, and it just glowed, this

Nurse Diane Edworthy.

blue light. It looked like a star at first, and then it kind of exploded into this blue light. It was very, very bright, and we watched this for about twenty minutes, I suppose. Then it started to change colour again, and it went from blue to red, and then it changed to green, then orange, and eventually it went back to white again. (Mrs. Edworthy had written notes.)

"This took place over a period of about 45 minutes. We didn't watch it all the time, as we had nappy changes to do, but at 12.45 (0045 a.m.) we stopped again, and we saw flashing lights coming from this light, which had now gone back to white, like a star again. We opened the main window so that we could actually look at it, as there was a lot of condensation on the window. We were then actually looking at it (looking at the flashing lights that had left the main 'star'.)

"We were then actually looking straight at it; it was at a few hundred yards, level with us, but we were looking from the hospital, which is perched up very high on the hill. The building looks down over the orchard fields, so we were more or less level with 'it'.

"It was like a white light on the top. I couldn't see the shape of the object that was moving, but underneath there were flashing lights, reds and greens. They were more or less the same colours as the lights that had been flashing from the 'star' at the beginning.

"That light (the 'star'), was still changing colour when we saw this craft hovering right over the edge of the orchard, and there it remained for about twenty minutes. It just stayed there; it looked as if it was spinning, because the lights were "twinkling", they were all different coloured lights, all at once. They were brilliant colours, all along the bottom. It looked as though they were moving around, just like 'Disco' lights."

Interrogation

Q. "Do you have any idea how far away it was?"

Reactions of Cats and Dogs

A. "I am not that good at distances, but it was several hundred yards away. Had it been an aircraft or a helicopter, it would have been deafening. *There was, however, no sound whatsoever.* It was so quiet. I couldn't even hear the horses. (There are stables next to the Hospital building.) Everything just went quiet. There are horses out in the paddock at the side. And there wasn't a sound . . . the dogs didn't bark . . . nothing.
"It was a bit later on when the dogs went mad and the cats started playing up. They wanted to go out, and we tried to put them out, but then they wouldn't go, and their hair stood on end.[2] *They wouldn't go out, and came scooting in again. We watched this all night, on and off, after we had finished our 'nappy change'."*

Amazing Effect on Child with a Brain Tumour

"We were looking after a little boy that was very ill. We both had the opportunity to watch that light, because we had to sit with the little boy, who was so ill. Now he (the little boy) was going quite frantic. He started going really frantic at about half-past-twelve, and he never settled down until half-past-three. And at half-past-three the lights disappeared. He then went quiet . . . just like that."

Q. "And what is wrong with that little boy?"

A. *"He is mentally handicapped, and he has a tumour on the brain. I telephoned to the Sister to come and see him, but she didn't come out, as there is nothing you can do for him. But he was really frantic. Then at half-past-three he settled down, the lights disappeared, and the main light in the sky went back to being like a star again."*

Q. "Did you actually see it move away?"

A. "No, the aircraft that was over there (by the orchard) or whatever you like to call it — the UFO — was over on one side and the star was above over here." (Pointing.)

Q. "What was the connection between the two?"

A. "Just that, when we came from the back of the house to see this craft that was moving across the sky, we completely forgot it at once, because of the big light in the sky. But when we looked at this big star, it just changed from white to bright blue, and then kept changing colours. Then, after about twenty minutes, we saw this little craft come out of it, and we didn't know which to watch. The little craft hovered for about twenty minutes, and then it did a circuit of the house again, and we were dashing about, into the bathroom, watching it going around. It was darting about in front of the Hospital for a while, and then off it went, we couldn't follow it right around the back."

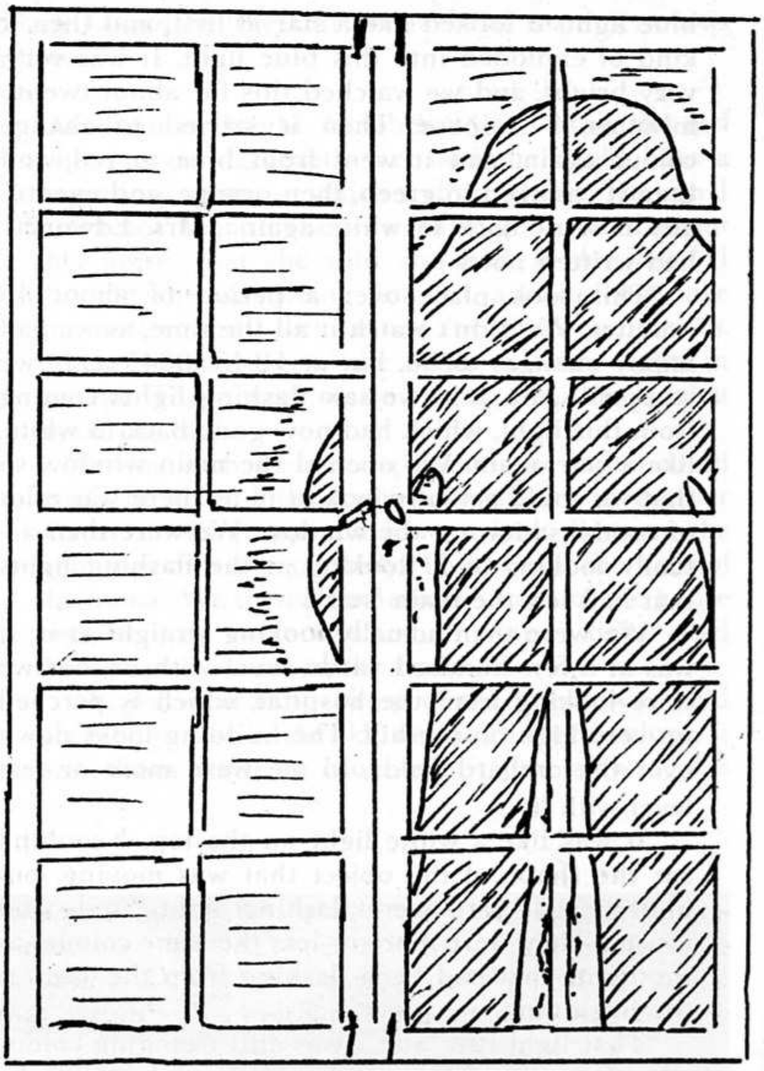
Q. "At its closest, what did it look like, a ball?"

A. "The star itself, well I would have said that it was as big as a fifty-pence piece if it was placed on the window (Approx. 1¼"); that would have just blotted it out. But, in comparison, the little craft that came out of the side of it was very tiny, but it glided, there was no sound whatsoever. When it disappeared, it just kept going around in the distance; it went around the back of the house and we lost it. We watched the star, which was changing colour, but it wasn't so quick and rapid as it had

been; it just changed and mellowed into a colour. When the craft disappeared, it just vanished. It was there one minute and then it was gone, and then the light just went out and seemed like a little star. And that was it — we didn't see anything after that."

Notes and Comments

1. **Mr. Omar Fowler confirms that on the second visitation,** *two* objects, one large and one small, were in the sky. When, at times, Nurse Edworthy or the others speak of "lights" in the plural, they are referring to the many differently coloured lights carried by what seems to have been the one larger object.
2. Reports of lively reactions of dogs and cats and other animals in the presence of UFOs are commonplace. (See my *New Catalogue: The Effects of UFOs on Animals, Birds, and Smaller Creatures,* in FSR Volume 16 No. 1 to FSR Volume 18 No. 3, which listed a total of 219 cases gathered up to the year 1968, and there have probably been as many in the years since.) The effect on the child is something of a far rarer nature, and it puts us in mind of the small son of Aimé Michel's *Doctor "X"*, in a famous case which we reported in great detail many years ago. As will be recalled, the French child in that case was not — so far as we have ever heard — mentally retarded or mentally affected in any way — but indeed rather the opposite — he was an extremely bright child, so that there is an important difference between the two children involved. Nevertheless it looks as though, although neither of these children was in a position where he could have *seen* the UFO that was approaching the houses in the middle of the night, both children reacted most powerfully to its presence, and the implications of that seem to be immense.



Sketch of entity at window.

The other interesting point is that here again a *hospital* is involved. In the past we have had many reports of UFOs over or around hospitals in the USA, Canada, and Brazil, these countries being all that I can recollect at the moment. — G.C.

THE FORKED TONGUE?

From a letter of April 27, 1985, to Editor of FSR, from Mr Hilary Evans of London:—

"Congratulations on keeping FSR going. As one by one the UFO journals cease publication — even the redoubtable *Inforespace* reduced to a typewritten news-sheet — FSR's survival seems more and more of an achievement. All good wishes."
Hilary.

From a letter to Editor of MUFON JOURNAL (May 1985) from Mr Hilary Evans of London:—

"With FSR in a very bad way, here in England we don't have anything to compare, though John Rimmer is embarking on a plan to raise *Magonia's* coverage to make at least some kind of replacement for FSR."

A TURKISH RELIGIOUS LEADER SPEAKS ON UFOs

When delivering a private address before a gathering of Muslims in London on June 6, 1985, a distinguished Islamic religious figure from Turkey, the Sufi Sheikh Nāzim Effendi of the Nakshband Order of Dervishes, was asked a question about UFOs and, to the great surprise of his audience, most of whom knew virtually nothing about the subject, he embarked upon a remarkable discussion and imparted much information of the greatest importance.

He said that the *Jinns,* the operators of these craft, who share this planet with mankind although themselves much older than man, hold the human race in total subjection and enslavement, deliberately causing all manner of wars and strife and disasters and disturbances, while sleeping mankind remains blissfully unaware of what is happening to it, and what its own true situation is.

As other Sufi leaders in recent years have done, he spoke of the Satanic Power of the Age, and particularly of the spread of atheistic materialism. Also of the steady infiltration of all human societies, all governments, and all religions by the demonic elements working for the downfall of man, so that, as a result, we see in Ireland Protestants and Catholics murdering one another in large numbers, Buddhists and Hindu Tamils in Sri Lanka murdering one another, Christians and Muslims in Lebanon murdering one another, and now Muslims murdering Muslims there too!

All these things, he said, were indications of decadence and degeneration, and were part of the Signs of the Times.

When asked about the role of certain fanatical so-called "religious" leaders in Iran and elsewhere, and fanatical sects under their influence, who are behind these events in Iran and Lebanon and elsewhere, he confirmed that these elements are under firm demonic (i.e. *Jinn*) control, and also have a political allegiance in a certain direction.

Like most of the Sufi leaders in recent years, Sheikh Nāzim Effendi (whose Master and Teacher was the famous Sheikh Daghestani of Damascus) expects the End of this Age to come soon, and sees all this current "UFO activity" on the planet as connected with, and preparatory to, the dramatic events which they foresee as due to occur in the closing years of the century, which will result in the overthrow of Satanic Power, but will also bring with it the annihilation of a very large part of the present human populations, in various civilizations and various areas of the globe, who are its adherents. T.A.Z.

ANIMAL MUTILATIONS

Reports of mysterious animal deaths and mutilations continue to arrive from various parts of the world.

1. AUSTRALIA

The *Telegraph,* Sydney, of July 13, 1984, carried this report:—

UFO Death 'Cover-Up by Army'

The Army is trying to cover up the bizarre killing of four cows on a farm, UFO researchers say.

Reports said each cow had a hole drilled above the right eye, through which the brain apparently was removed.

A director of the Australian International UFO Research Society, Mr Colin Norris, said yesterday that egg-shaped pod-marks, suggesting the landing of a craft, were found near the property, in the Adelaide Hills.

He said rocks in the pod-holes were crushed, treetops burned, and many birds found dead.

Rumours

Police at Mount Barker and Sterling, the area where the cows were found, said they had no reports of UFOs or unusual cattle-deaths, but were aware of rumours of UFOs.

Mr Norris said: "The area is often used by the Army and is closed off.

"I'm told the Army asked the farmer to remain quiet about it, and that they will cover the whole thing up."

Hs said many people had reported seeing UFOs in the area.

(Credit and thanks to FSR Consultant Mr Paul Whitehead.)

2. WALES

The *Sunday Express* (London) for May 12, 1985, carried the following report:—

Death Riddle Returns To Haunt Farms

Sheep-farmer Major Norman Corbett was stunned by the discovery he made in one of his fields.

Lying dead on the grass were three lambs. At first glance they appeared to be unmarked. But as he turned them over, there was a horrifyingly familiar sight.

On the side of each lamb's body was a puncture-mark the size of a 10p piece.

That same night a total of 21 lambs on two farms in the area were found dead. All had exactly the same wound, and none was outwardly marked in any other way.

And nobody has the slightest idea who or what killed them. Or how.

Major Corbett has seen it all before. Last year, he and other farmers in the area became used to finding dead lambs with identical wounds and severe internal injuries.

Although Police, vets and farmers mounted a major investigation, they could find no explanation for the mystery puncture-marks. Investigators considered many theories, but one by one, they ruled out attacks by cross-bow, shotgun, and other animals, such as dogs.

Relieved only Temporarily

Then in October (1984) the deaths stopped as mysteriously as they had started. Relieved farmers though it was all over.

Now the killings have started again and, like last year, when around 120 lambs were killed, they have begun in May, and at night.

The killings have also concentrated almost exclusively on one type of lamb, pure-white Welsh ewes. Brown and off-white lambs, and male lambs, have almost always been ignored. And most of the attacks have been directed at only two farms, Major Corbett's, and that of his neighbour Mr Richard Lewis at Tywyn, South Gwynedd.

Major Corbett, who has more than 1,000 sheep, has lost 35 lambs, worth £1,000. Mr Lewis has lost more than 70.

Superintendent Elwyn Davies, of Dolgellau Police, South Gwynedd, said: "It is made worse because, in this area, sheep are people's livelihood."

(Credit and thanks to several readers)

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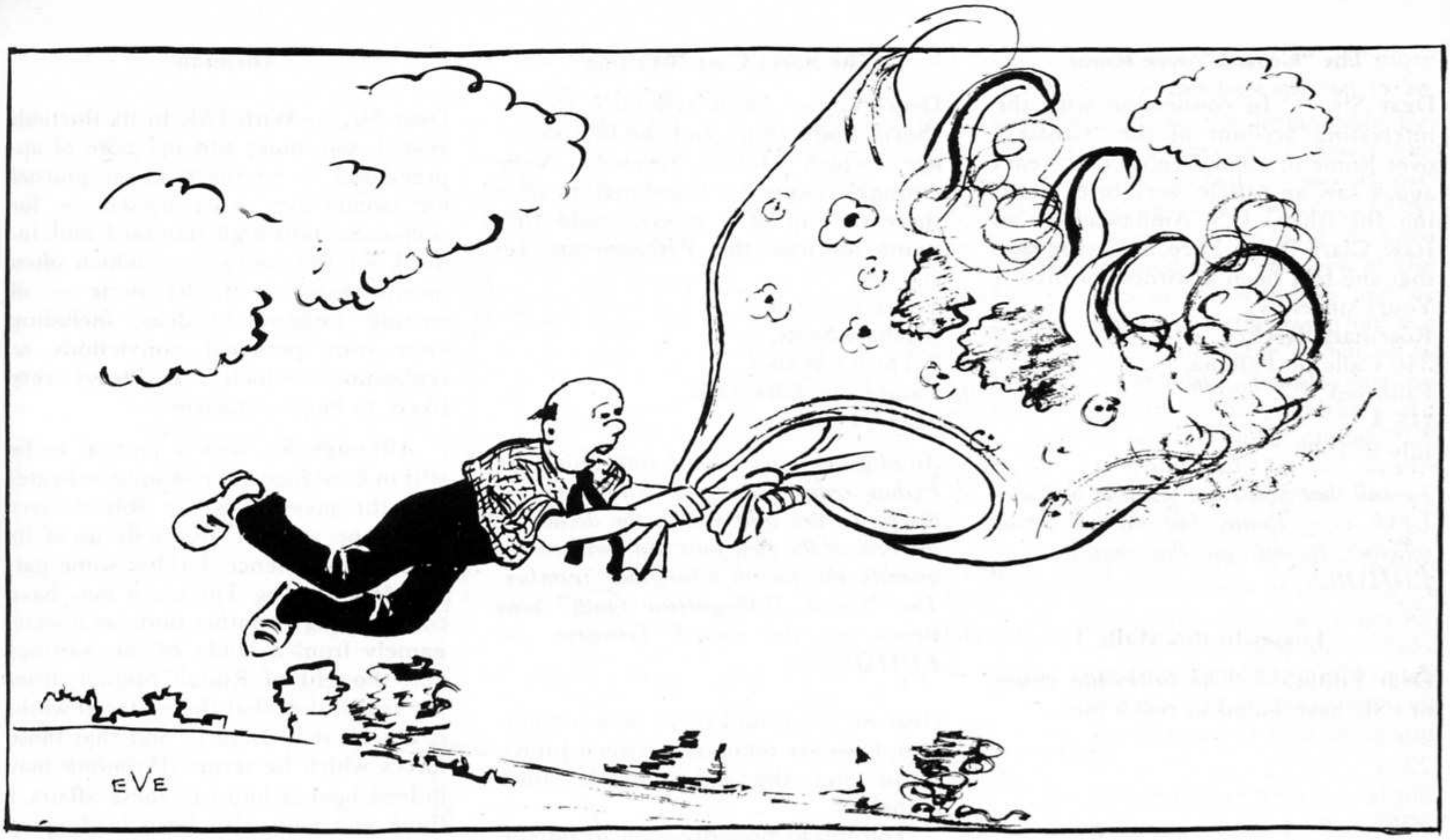


A UFO landing on the South Downs some years ago was explained officially as due to an attempt by someone to burn a carpet.

MAIL BAG

Correspondents are asked to keep their letters short and give full name and address (not necessarily for publication). It is not always possible for the Editor to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

A sighting over Holland in 1979

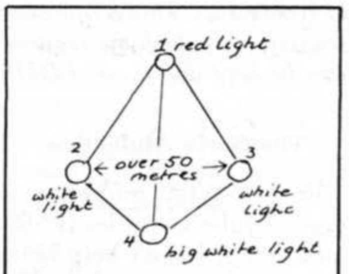
Dear Sir, — Referring to articles on "Boomerangs", I should like to draw your attention to sightings that occurred here in the Netherlands, over the Dutch Air Force Base at Soesterberg (east of Utrecht) on February 3, 1979, and March 2, 1979. On the first occasion, the object was over the Dutch part of the Base, while the second was over the American section of the Base, as we have the U.S. Air Force crews here, domiciled on the Base with their families.

The UFO observed on both occasions had something in common with the "Boomerang" seen in the U.S.A. (FSR 30/3.)

Both sightings were investigated for our UFO Study Group Werkgroep N.O.B.O.V.O., by members W.A. Kuiper, Dr W. de Graaff (astronomer) and duly reported in our journal *Tijdschrift Voor Ufologie*, Nos. 27 and 28, published in 1979.

I enclose a copy of the sketch which we published. The width of the UFO (between lights 2 and 3) was estimated at more than 50 metres.*

Yours faithfully,
H. Pieters,
Gijsinglaan 876,
3026 BR Rotterdam,
Netherlands.
April, 1985.



** But, to judge by the sketch, it seems, at least, far more reminiscent in shape of the "spinning top" which we recently reported from Brazil (FSR 29/2, pp. 10 and 11), though that one was not thought to be more than five metres wide at the most. In conclusion it seems that one can say that both the Dutch and the Brazilian objects were a great deal smaller than the "boomerang" seen by hundreds in the USA, and regarding which we shall soon give a further report.— EDITOR.*

The "Crosses" over Rome

Dear Sir, — In connection with the interesting account of the "Crosses" over Rome in 1954, I recall that, years ago, I saw an article, very brief, quoting the (then) U.S. Ambassadress to Italy, Clare Booth Luce, as having said that she had been a witness of this.

Yours sincerely,
Rosemary Decker,
340 Calle de Paloma,
Fallbrook, CA 92028,
U.S.A.
July 8, 1985.

I recall that Mrs Luce said she had seen UFOs over Rome, but do not know whether it was on this occasion. — EDITOR.

Losses in the Mails

Dear Editor, — The following issues of FSR have failed to reach me:—
29/3
29/6
30/1
30/3

As regards my material sent to you, did you ever get my letters about the deaths of Kenneth Arnold, Joan O'Connell, and Gray Barker?

Yours,
John Keel,
Box 20024,
New York City,
N.Y. 10025-9992,
U.S.A.
June 29, 1985.

A typical state of affairs! Of the three letters, only the one about Kenneth Arnold reached us. This is one of several effective ways in which the readership of FSR can be kept down. — EDITOR.

The Soria Abduction

Dear Sir, — With reference to the drawings of Julio's entities (FSR 30/3, 30/4 and 30/5) I can't help being put in mind of Jacques Vallée's *"Passport To Magonia"*.

Surely we have here representations of the traditional impression of that well-known figure seen in children's fairy tales — none other than the wizard Merlin himself!

What a coincidence!

Yours sincerely,
Graham Conway,
11102 River Road,
Delta,
British Columbia,
Canada.
June 30, 1985.

The Soria Case "Writing"

Dear Sir, — With reference to the "Soria Abduction", and the first message which Julio 'received very strongly', namely a 'combination of a three on top of a seven', could this point towards the Pythagorean *Tetractys*?

Yours sincerely,
Michael Scott,
7 Thrift's Walk,
Cambridge CB4 1NR.
May 24, 1985.

An abstruse point indeed, concerning the Pythagorean Theory of Numbers and the properties inherent in the decad — the sum of the first four numbers, consequently the fourth triangular number. The "Great Pythagorean Oath" was sworn on the sacred Tetractys. — EDITOR.

Dear Sir, — Could there be a correlation, however tenuous, between Julio's script and the old Turkish runic alphabet?

You might possibly wish to pursue this point, if you have further examples.

I do not have the expertise, but see some vague resemblance.*

Yours sincerely,
C. A. Pushong, BA, FIPI, FRGS,
4 Papworth Way,
Tulse Hill,
London, SW2.
May 28, 1985.

** Julio has only given us three symbols, so how can one formulate theories on the basis of three symbols? For example, the symbol თ represents our letter "T" in the Georgian language, spoken in the Caucasus, and also in Burmese, spoken in S.E. Asia, but nobody is going to argue from this that there is any conceivable relationship between Georgian and Burmese, and there is none. As for Kök Türki runes, I have tables showing an enormous range of varieties in the shapes of their incised scratches on the stelaè in Siberia, Mongolia and Turkestan, so there are almost bound to be one or two with some slight resemblance to Julio's three symbols.*

In any case, although the Qur'ān indicates that there is some sort of kinship betweeen mankind and Jinns, is it not going a bit far to imagine any links between the chatter and the gibberish marks left by all these UFO entities and our human tongues?

We shall shortly be publishing a general review covering this subject since 1952 or thereabouts. — EDITOR.

Ahrimān

Dear Sir, — With FSR in its thirtieth year, I, too, must add my note of appreciation — having read the journal for twenty-five years myself — for such consistent high standard, and, indeed, for the courage — which often means standing almost alone — of writing unpopular ideas, including your own personal convictions or realisations, which are always very likely to beget cynicism.

Although for such a journal to be still in existence after so long indicates that the mystery is not solved, over and done with, it also tells us of its abiding prevalence. I think some pattern is emerging. For me it may have come through another door, as it were, namely from a study of the writings and thought of Rudolf Steiner, from the realization that the material world is not all that there is, and that those forces which he terms *Ahrimānic* may indeed have a hand in these affairs. I think you have also been leading up to such a view. In the interests of keeping this letter fairly short perhaps readers may be referred to previous articles and editorials of yours and the numerous clues which you have given.

Although it is of course always *possible* that this is not the right track, intuitively one feels that the pieces are beginning to fit rather better than they do under any other theory that we have contemplated.

Any general acceptance of these ideas by the public is, however, unlikely, and for this there are associated reasons. . . .*

With very good wishes.

Yours sincerely,
Raymond E. Cox,
4 Lulworth Close,
Halesowen,
West Midlands B63 2UJ.
May 28, 1985.

** It may perhaps be necessary to explain that Ahrimān is the old pre-Islamic Persian name for the Dark Forces, and is therefore the equivalent of the later Arabic and Muslim term Jinns.*

Ahrimān is the Lord and Ruler of this world, and, as such, our Owner. Both the Nazarene Teacher and Paul were well aware of it, and said so! Western Man, however, has chosen to forget this awkward truth — at his own peril. — EDITOR.

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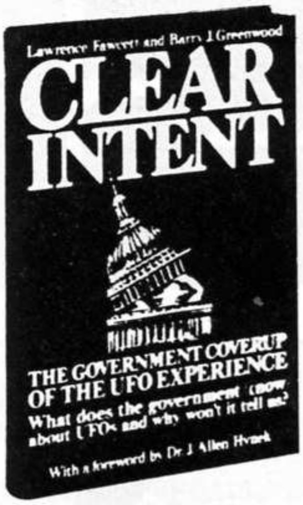

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Artwork: Eve and Contributors

World Control by the Jinns

(Translation from Spanish)

Dear Sir, — Many thanks for sending me the photocopy of the case of the cowman Liberato in Colombia and his experience with the female Jinns (FSR Vol. 23, No. 1).

*I had thought that I was the first person in the world to perceive that the Jinns are behind the "UFO Phenomenon", but am glad to see now that you had thought of it too. I must say that I find it incredible that — so far as I can see from all the many UFO books that I have read — not a single Western writer has ever referred to them!**

Yes, *poltergeists* are simply Jinns, as shown clearly in the Qur'ān already 1,400 years ago.

There has been much discussion of "cross-breeding" between "extraterrestrials" (i.e. *non-humans*) and humans, and the Qur'ān has a clear reference to this, in the verse which reads i.e. *"And kinship was imposed, between them and the Jinns".* Surah 37, 158 Verse

وَجَعَلُوا بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ الْجِنَّةِ نَسَبًا

Yours sincerely,
Khaled Hamsho,
Consulting Engineer,
Al Mazra'a Al Malek Al Adel,
Bat. Hamsho & Sabbagh,
Damascus,
Syrian Arab Republic.
22 June 1985.

** People in the western countries are not particularly "well educated", though they may imagine that they are. — EDITOR.***

Alleged Rapings of Women

Dear Editor, — In your Footnote No. 3 to my *Soria Abduction, Part 1* (FSR 30/3, page 11) you observe; *"It is curious that Toni Ribera does not mention . . . rapes of terrestrial women".**

This is quite true. And all the more so, because I knew — and had forgotten — the four or five cases reported by Professor Hans Holzer in his book *The Ufonauts* (U.K. edition, Granada Paperbacks, 1976). Two of the women are identified by him (one presumes not by their true names?) as the American girl Shane Kurz, a telephonist in New York State, and the Californian schoolteacher Cordelia Donovan. He also mentions the case of the 24-year-old Australian woman, Marlene Travers.

Yours sincerely,
Toni Ribera,
Calle Barcelona, 48,
Sant Feliu de Codines,
Barcelona,
Spain.
April 5, 1985.

** We know of several other reports, from various countries. And of course there is always the famous episode of the "Sons of God" or Giants (Nephilim) in Chapter 6 of Genesis.*

We shall shortly be publishing an article summing up all that we have learned so far about this aspect of the subject. — EDITOR.

"Sociological" Truth

Dear Editor, — As you know, it is now many years since I resigned from my once-upon-a-time (alleged) "Papacy" in Ufology, so, recovering the clerk's right to be fallible, can I give you my fallible statement regarding our good friend Dr Hynek's facilities and computers?

Forty years of fascinating studies of UFOs have succeeded in teaching us at least one, and perhaps only one, "truth about Flying Saucers", namely the Socratic one = *we clearly know that we know nothing.*

As an example, we often found that such and such witnesses were liars. But, what if some sorts of lies belong to Ufological Truth?

I never forgot something you told me long ago (in French): *"Le Mythe est quelquefois plus vrai que la vérité".*

The *Iliad* is a great heap of tales about the Trojan War, which, however, is a historical fact. Once a Schliemann had chosen to believe the tales, and so discovered the *ashes* of the scientifically refuted Ilion.

I often hear or read that "most" (i.e. to be understood as "all") of the 80,000 case histories in Dr Hynek's computers are fallacies. Or, I would rather say, *ashes.* What disturbs me is that, digging up his ashes, Dr Schliemann "finds" one hypothesis more "ridiculous" than any other. I personally find all of them "ridiculous"! I am even inclined to believe that, the larger is the *"quantum jump"* we are going to have to dig out, the more "ridiculous" it can be expected to be.

As you know, the fashionable hypothesis in France now about the UFOs is the so-called *"sociological"* one. According to this sociological hypothesis, every case is said to have been "explained away" as soon as the personalities of the witnesses and/or the investigators or the reporters are found to be "unreliable". That is to say, only "reliable" people can be shown incredible things. Others are forbidden to see such things. Of course, the proof that they are unreliable is that they tell incredible things. — *Q.E.D.*

After reading some of these "sociological demonstrations of the truth", I said *(in petto)* my own *mea culpa* for myself — when, during the 1950s, while recording the celebrated French UFO Wave of 1954, I myself rejected a whole lot of cases as ridiculous and incredible!

What a fool I was! Now, too late, I am obliged to apologize to those miraculous, once-for-ever fresh witnesses, who had never yet heard then about "flying saucers", and never yet read any book or review on UFOs or any "newspaper fantasies" about such things!

Where, today, can one hear with humility such naïve storytellers?

"Never more!" quoth the raven.

So, dear Editor, it was in this fashion that I lost my right — if any — to the Papacy. (Heaven grant that the facilities and computers will succeed in overcoming human fallibility!)

Just one more word about something else. There are at least two differences between your hooligans and ours: ours are more numerous than yours, and yours are interested in soccer; ours in nothing.*

Yours ever,
Aimé Michel,
La Haute Combe,
FO4570 St. Vincent-Les-Forts,
Alpes de Haute Provence,
France.
June 5, 1985.

P.S. I always read all your editorials and articles in FSR with admiration. How active you are, it is incredible. I agree with every line you write.

** On both these points I fear we in Britain must dare to question the Papal Infallibility. — EDITOR.*

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